

**Amendments to the Specification:**

On page 1, before 'BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION,' Please insert:

**CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS**

This application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Patent Application No. 10/062,387 filed February 1, 2002 and entitled, "BIT-DEPTH EXTENSION WITH MODELS OF EQUIVALENT INPUT VISUAL NOISE".